

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A In a fuel filter comprising

a filter housing,

at least one **substantially flat** filter element contained in the housing,

~~at least two connections, at least one of which connections serves as a fuel inlet~~
delivering fuel to be filtered into the housing and ~~at least one of which serves as a fuel~~
~~outlet~~ **delivering filtered fuel from the housing**, ~~the improvement wherein the filter element~~
~~is embodied as flat~~ **and**

at least one wall encapsulating a side of the filter element, wherein the filter
element and the at least one wall together constitute a filter insert which is inserted into
the housing.

16. (Previously presented) The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter element comprises a folded filter material.

17. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 16, wherein the filter material is folded essentially into the shape of a block.

18. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter insert element comprises an encapsulated clean side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel outlet.

19. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 17, wherein the filter insert element comprises an encapsulated clean side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel outlet.

20. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter insert comprises element ~~comprise~~ an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel inlet.

21. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 17, wherein the filter insert comprises element ~~comprise~~ an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel inlet.

22. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 18, wherein the filter insert comprises ~~element comprise~~ an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to ~~the connection~~ ~~serving as~~ the fuel inlet.
23. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, comprising of two or more filter elements contained in the filter housing.
24. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 20, comprising of two or more filter elements contained in the filter housing.
25. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the fuel inlet or the fuel outlet ~~connections~~ is situated at an end of the filter housing.
26. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 25, wherein the fuel inlet and the fuel outlet ~~characterized in that at least two of the connections~~ are situated at opposite ends of the filter housing.
27. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, further comprising of a flow entry that at least reduces turbulence in the region of the side where the flow strikes the filter element.

Appl. No. 10/565,381
Amdt. dated February 22, 2008
Reply to Office action of November 23, 2007

28. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, further comprising a flow baffle provided in ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel inlet.

29. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 20, further comprising a flow baffle provided in ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel inlet.

30. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 29, wherein the flow baffle is inclined upward in relation to the flow direction.

31. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter housing comprises a block-shaped housing part and a cover that closes the housing part.